

That is exactly what this new Congress has done is adopt the pay-as-you-go rules, the fiscal discipline that put us on a path to again putting our fiscal house in order and in balance with our priorities as we go.

But Mr. Greenspan's book, I don't think any time soon will be on the best seller list or talked about in Republican clubs or Republican book circles, lays bare what a number of us have been saying about this administration and the Republican Congress, that they, or as JOHN MCCAIN quotes, "spend like a bunch of drunken sailors." And they have now left America stranded with mountains of debt.

The one thing that we can say about President Bush and the Republican Congress when it comes to the economy and the fiscal mess that they've left is that we will forever be in their debt. That is one thing that you can always say. But I find it most intriguing that Greenspan, who is a life-long Republican and served and worked with President Reagan, President Bush, President Clinton, President Bush, and President Ford, saw that this administration and this Republican Congress and cohorts, when they worked together for 6 years, left this country in a worse fiscal shape than the one they inherited. And all of us will be judged in our public life for the country we inherited and the country we left behind. And what we got left behind is nothing but a fiscal mess that those of us who have taken the tough votes and the tough decisions put America's long-term economic interests at the center of our economic policy.

IN SUPPORT OF ONSLOW VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of an important effort to honor our Nation's Vietnam veterans.

The Onslow County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation in Jacksonville, North Carolina, is a nonprofit organization that was established by veterans and supporters in 1998. It was created to raise funds for the construction of a memorial to honor the brave men and women from all branches of the Armed Forces who served their country in Vietnam.

More than 9 million veterans of the Armed Forces served on active duty from August 5, 1964 to May 7, 1975. Of the 3 million men and women who served in the Vietnam theater, 300,000 were wounded and more than 58,000 were killed. The Veterans Administration estimates that nearly 200 of the surviving Vietnam veterans die each and every day.

Today, nearly 10 years after its formation, the goal of the Onslow Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation is

on the verge of becoming a reality. On the grounds of Marine Corps base Camp Lejeune, land has been acquired adjacent to the Beirut memorial, and the first phase of construction is expected to begin later this year.

The design of the memorial consists of a gazebo over a reflecting pool and fountain encircled by a glass wall inscribed with the names of all those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation. Hidden within a dark gray granite base, lights will gently illuminate the engraved names on the curved glass memorial.

Once completed, the memorial will enhance the Beirut memorial and any further memorials built within the Lejeune Memorial Garden. By creating an environment where relatives and the general public can come to remember and reflect on the men and women who gave their lives in Vietnam, this memorial will attract thousands of visitors to Onslow County each year.

The Onslow Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation has raised and collected about \$1.2 million toward the \$5 million estimated cost of the memorial. In support of this worthy project, Mr. Kenji Horn and others who believe in this memorial have organized a fund-raising motorcycle run in Jacksonville, North Carolina, on Saturday, September 22 of this year. It is open to everyone, and all types of motorcycles are welcome. Registrations have come in from Florida, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Kentucky, and other States around the country; and more than 1,500 motorcycles are expected to participate.

Mr. Speaker, in today's world, we all are aware of the debt of this Nation, and we understand the reality that most worthwhile projects must be funded by the private sector. So it is my hope, Mr. Speaker, that people from around this Nation will be interested in learning more about the Onslow Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation. Our Vietnam veterans have earned this honor.

And I close, Mr. Speaker, by saying, please God, continue to bless our men and women in uniform, and please, God, continue to bless America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CUMMINGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

A BIPARTISAN WAY AHEAD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SESTAK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SESTAK. Mr. Speaker, there is a bipartisan "way ahead" in Iraq if viewed in terms of progress for America's security and not solely Iraq's, with a strategy that focuses on our

natural interests in this conflict, not just the interests of Iraqis.

Our troops have served our country courageously and brilliantly, but our engagement in Iraq has degraded our security, pushing our Army to the breaking point so that it cannot confront other pressing security concerns at home and abroad. My military service as a 3-star admiral, having led an aircraft carrier battle group in combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq and served as Director of the Navy's anti-terrorism unit, convinces me that an inconclusive, open-ended involvement in Iraq is not in our security interests.

Ending this war is necessary, but how we end it is of even greater importance both for our security and our troops' safety. These two considerations, our security and our troops' safety, are the dual catalysts for a bipartisan discussion to end this war.

First, America's security. Our Army will rapidly unravel if redeployment from Iraq does not begin before spring, 2008. Today, 40 percent of all U.S. Army equipment is in Iraq. There is no Army unit now at home in a state of readiness able to deploy anywhere another contingency might occur in the world.

Second, the safety of our troops. Redeployment from Iraq will be lengthy. Moving 160,000 troops and 50,000 civilians and closing bases are logistically challenging, especially in conflict. To ensure our troops' safety, it will take at least a year, probably 15 to 24 months. The "long pole in the tent" is the closure or turnover of 65 forward operating bases. Conservatively, it takes 100 days to close one forward operating base. It will be important to balance how many to close at one time, with calculations about surrounding strife, and the fact that Kuwait's receiving facilities to clean and package vehicles for customs and shipment back to the United States can handle only two to 2½ brigade combat teams at a time, with the fact that there are currently 40 brigade combat team equivalents in Iraq today.

Redeployment is the most vulnerable of all military operations, particularly because this one will be down a single road leading from Iraq to Kuwait, "Road Tampa." Such vulnerability is why, in 1993, after "Black Hawk Down" in Somalia, it took 6 months to extract our 6,300 troops safely and only then after inserting an additional 19,000 troops to protect their redeployment.

And what of Iraqi stability in the aftermath of our redeployment, which affects the region and, thus, our security? Because the redeployment of troops will take a long time, we can have a bipartisan approach to Iraq's security. To do this, we Democrats must turn from pure opposition to this war and an immediate withdrawal and begin to help author a comprehensive regional security plan that accepts the necessity for a deliberate redeployment.

In turn, the Republican leadership must accept that the U.S. Government